

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 11, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 31, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 4, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 18, 2005

SENATE BILL

No. 925

Introduced by Senator Alarcon

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 66204.1 to the Education Code, relating to high schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 925, as amended, Alarcon. High schools: college preparatory courses.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to assist all school districts to ensure that all public high school pupils have access to a core curriculum that meets the admission requirements of the University of California and the California State University. Existing law also requires the Superintendent to advise school districts that maintain high schools about the importance of making readily available to each high school pupil the current list of courses offered by the school attended by the pupil that are certified by the University of California as meeting admissions requirements.

This bill would authorize a public high school to accommodate a pupil who commences grade 9 in the 2007-08 academic year or any academic year thereafter, and who requests admission to a college preparatory course, as defined, for which he or she qualifies by successfully completing prerequisite coursework or by demonstrating appropriate skill mastery. The bill would provide that a school could

accommodate that pupil by methods including reorganizing class offerings, offering combination classes, increasing the rigor of classroom curricula by ensuring the class meets college preparatory requirements, and reorganizing class schedules.

The bill would also, commencing with the 2007-08 school year, prohibit a school district from denying a pupil access to enroll in college preparatory courses if certain specified conditions apply.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 66204.1 is added to the Education
2 Code, to read:

3 66204.1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that,
4 commencing with the 2007-08 academic year, all public high
5 school pupils be enrolled in core curriculum that will enable
6 them to pursue an array of postsecondary options, including
7 career technical training and four-year public or private
8 postsecondary universities. After grade 10, a pupil who has
9 developed postsecondary plans with his or her parents and
10 counselors shall have flexibility in the necessary core curriculum
11 to implement those plans.

12 *(b) (1) Commencing with the 2007-08 school year, a school*
13 *district shall not deny a pupil access from enrolling in college*
14 *preparatory courses if that pupil has met the prerequisite*
15 *coursework to enroll and has requested to enroll in that course.*

16 *(2) Paragraph (1) applies only to schools that elect to offer*
17 *competitive or club sports.*

18 ~~(b)~~

19 *(c) A public high school may accommodate a pupil who*
20 *commences grade 9 in the 2007-08 or any subsequent academic*
21 *year, and who, in a timely manner before the commencement of*
22 *an academic term, requests admission to a college preparatory*
23 *course, for which he or she qualifies by successfully completing*
24 *prerequisite coursework or by demonstrating appropriate skill*
25 *mastery, by methods including, but not necessarily limited to, all*
26 *of the following:*

27 (1) Reorganizing class offerings.

28 ~~(2) Offering combination classes.~~

~~(3)~~

(2) Increasing the rigor of classroom curricula by ensuring the class meets college preparatory requirements.

~~(4)~~

(3) Reorganizing class schedules.

~~(e)~~

(d) “College preparatory course,” for purposes of this section, means a sequence of courses, including career technical and vocational classes, that are approved by the University of California and that are required for a pupil to be eligible for admission to the University of California or the California State University.

(e) (1) A school district that is unable to meet the requirements of subdivision (c) may apply to the Superintendent for, and the Superintendent may grant, an extension of time necessary to meet those requirements. An application for an extension shall include specific reasons that the school district is unable to meet those requirements that relate to all of the following:

(A) The number of pupils enrolled in college preparatory courses.

(B) The number of pupils that will graduate not having completed all courses that are required for a pupil to be eligible for admission to the University of California or the California State University.

(C) The graduation rate.

(D) The number of career technical and vocational classes offered.

(E) High school master calendars. A school district shall also provide an example of a high school master calendar.

(F) The budget of the school district.

(G) The demographics of the school district.

(2) The Superintendent shall approve or deny an application within 60 days.